

The POLICE BEAT



A publication of the Alexandria Police Department

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SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD CHARLOTTE ROSS HONORED FOR 46 YEARS OF SERVICE

Twice a day, Charlotte Ross walks from her house to Polk Elementary School. During arrival and dismissal she helps children cross the street safely at the intersection of Polk Street and Pegram Street. Charlotte has served as the school crossing guard at Polk Elementary School since it opened in 1965.



School Crossing Guard Charlotte Ross has been serving at Polk Elementary School since it opened in 1965.

Two of Charlotte's three children attended Polk Elementary School when it opened its doors. She admits that being a school crossing guard was not anything she ever thought of doing. However, when she was offered the job she could not pass up the opportunity.

What began as a job quickly turned into a passion. Charlotte looks forward to seeing the children of Polk Elementary School everyday. She enjoys talking to the children and getting to know them and their parents.

In February, the faculty, staff and students of Polk Elementary honored Charlotte for her 46 years of service. She has been an irreplaceable fixture at Polk Elementary School for generations of children.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

EARL L. COOK, CHIEF OF POLICE



Across the country, law enforcement agencies are being forced to make sacrifices as their cities and counties experience difficult economic times. Despite these tough times, the City experienced a Crime rate that has not existed since 1967. This historic low would not have been possible without the dedication, innovative thinking and hard work of the men and women of the Police Department.

I could not be more proud of the way these men and women have taken a tough situation and created ways to combat and prevent crime using fewer resources. Officers who patrol the streets are continuously identifying ways to improve the quality of life for the residents of Alexandria. Our Detectives are closing cases and removing career criminals off our streets. A dedicated and committed civilian staff works tirelessly to provide support and resources so

officers can perform their duties to the best of their abilities.

In this difficult economic environment, I am confident that the Alexandria Police Department will continue to provide unwavering service to its communities. Officers will continue to find new and innovative ways to reduce crime and make Alexandria a wonderful place to live or visit.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Earl L. Cook".

Earl L. Cook
Chief of Police

SERGEANT BART BAILEY RECEIVES CENTER FOR ALEXANDRIA'S CHILDREN (CAC) AWARD

The Center for Alexandria's Children (CAC) honored Sergeant Bart Bailey with the 2011 Outstanding Dedication to Children Award. As a sergeant in the Police Department's Criminal Investigations Youth and Domestic Violence Units, Bart Bailey's first priority has always been to ensure a quick and compassionate response to crimes against children.

Since the Center for Alexandria's Children was founded in 2006, Sergeant Bailey has served as a member of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), which coordinates all aspects of child abuse cases. His leadership on the MDT has been a catalyst for change, transforming a disparate system into one where joint investigations are standard.

His work on the MDT Steering Committee and CAC Accreditation Committee has won him praise. "Sergeant Bailey's leadership skills, collaborative spirit and positive outlook have helped to create a great direct system response," said Giselle Pelaez,



(left to right) Deputy Chief Cleveland Spruill, Detective Bart Bailey and Captain William Johnson at the Center for Alexandria's Children award ceremony.

Executive Director of CAC. "Bart has an innate understanding of how leadership trickles down. His commitment has ensured swift and thorough response. The children of Alexandria are fortunate to have Sergeant Bailey in their corner."



NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NAMED



Karin Markle has been named as the Police Department's new Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please call Karin at 703.706.3988.



K-9 OFFICER CARLOS ROLON AND AJAX WIN TRIPLE CROWN AWARD



The United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) presented its Triple Crown award to Alexandria K-9 Officer Carlos Rolon and Ajax. The Triple Crown award is presented to the Region Three member in good standing who achieves certification in "PD 1, 'Tracking' and 'Detector'" in a calendar year (January to December).



T&ES FOCUSES ON WORKPLACE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

On Thursday, February 17, Police Chief Earl Cook spoke to the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) employees about the importance of creating a diverse and inclusive work environment.

Police Chief Cook spoke of his personal and professional experiences over the past thirty years throughout the City of Alexandria. He strongly emphasized the importance of creating a diverse and inclusive work environment, which represents the community as a whole. He elaborated about his experiences both living and working in the City, and how it has changed over the years. "I take great pride in the fact that I was raised in the City of Alexandria, and have spent most of my career right here at home." During that time, Chief Cook recalled his experiences as a young boy with his family. He said, "I can remember being at G.C. Murphys five and dime store, as a young boy with my family and not being allowed to sit down at the lunch counter."

He also recalled being part of the TC Williams football team, which the film Remember the Titans was loosely based upon.

Chief Cook emphasized, "While we've made great strides moving forward both in our work environments and as a community, it's important to realize, as with anything...that there is still a great deal of work to



Division Chief of Administration for Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) Antonio Baxter introduces Chief Cook at a T&ES meeting. Chief Cook spoke to the group about workforce diversity and inclusiveness.

be done, and it's exciting to see what the future will bring."

For more information about T&ES' implementation of the city-wide Diversity Plan please contact Antonio Baxter at antonio.baxter@alexandriava.gov.



T.C. WILLIAMS HONORS BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS



Breast Cancer Survivors Lana Stearns (left) and Detective Adrienne Miller (right) of the Alexandria Police Department and Lieutenant Monique Rea (center) of the Alexandria Sheriff's Office were presented with pink roses at the February 8 T.C. Williams girls' basketball game as part of the teams' outreach on behalf of breast cancer awareness. The Alexandria Gazette recently shared a photo of their participation in this special event.



COMMUNICATORS RECEIVE E 9-1-1 INSTITUTE TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Alexandria Department of Emergency Communications staff (Group D) is being honored with the E 9-1-1 Institute's Telecommunicator of the Year Award for their excellent and efficient handling of a major crime incident that happened at City Hall in July 2010. The group was selected out of 92 other nominations to receive this year's award.

On July 28, 2010, at approximately 8:21 PM, Arlington County, Virginia police were chasing a stolen vehicle that was carjacked in their jurisdiction. They entered Alexandria and the stolen vehicle crashed near Alexandria City Hall. One of the suspects, who was armed with a handgun, ran from the wrecked vehicle and into City Hall. Although it was after normal business hours, the building was full of people (citizens and city employees), as there was a public meeting being held on an upper floor of the building.

Several patrol officers, who are members of the SWAT team, were in the area and quickly assembled an active shooter contact team. The full SWAT team was eventually called out, as were hostage negotiators and all of the related personnel. The suspect was eventually located and taken into custody. The total response for the incident required 33 officers. There was a building evacuation, a perimeter to be set up, the carjacking vehicle recovery, and accident investigation to be completed in the midst of a chaotic scene.

The dispatching group is being recognized for the incredible job they performed during what was a highly stressful and complex incident. The initial call came in through the regional Police Mutual Aid Radio System (PMARS). During the entire incident, one



dispatcher monitored the main dispatch channel. Another dispatcher monitored PMARS. A third had to monitor the alternate radio channel that the incident was moved to. There were only six dispatchers working during the incident. This means that half of the dispatchers, including the supervisor and assistant supervisor, coordinated all radio traffic for the City Hall incident. The remaining dispatchers handled all other calls. In addition, they had to activate the Reverse 911 system to notify nearby residents of the incident taking place.

The dispatching group worked very well coordinating the many responses to the events and numerous officers on the scene. In addition to our own officers, there were several officers on the scene from neighboring Arlington County, who had initiated the call. Due to excellent communications interoperability within the National Capital Region, our dispatcher was able to communicate seamlessly with the Arlington County Police Department.



E-9-1-1 INSTITUTE TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

Emergency Communications Technician (ECT) Supervisor Marilyn Anderson
ECT Leslie Lewis
ECT Kimberly Welch
ECT Linda Garcia
ECT Rick Czarnowsky
ECT Trainee Chavonte Pollard

ECT Heather Vice
ECT Alesha Randolph

ALEXANDRIA POLICE MAKES ARREST IN SERIES OF BURGLARIES

Alexandria Detectives have arrested three men responsible for a string of burglaries that plagued the Northeast area of the City over the last month. Demarious L. White, 19, Cordell A. Walker, 19, and Deshawn L. Strattman, 18, all Alexandria City residents, have been charged with Burglary, Grand Larceny and Larceny with the Intent to Sell. These charges stem from burglaries in the 100 block of Sanborn Place, the 100 block of E. Uhler Avenue and the 600 block of North Alfred Street. The suspects are being held at the Adult Detention Center without bond.

As soon as police identified the emerging crime pattern of these burglaries, a comprehensive plan was immediately designed and implemented. The plan's intent was to disrupt the criminal activity and apprehend those responsible. This plan included increased patrol, the use of specialty units to do surveillance and foot patrol and the usage of sign boards in the affected neighborhoods. Liaison officers attended civic and community meetings, disseminated crime prevention materials and

offered home security assessments to residents. All of these efforts were in collaboration with the hard working detectives in the Criminal Investigations Section. Ultimately, detectives developed a lead in the cases, which led to the arrest of these suspects.

This is an ongoing investigation and additional charges or suspects may be pending.

If anyone has additional information about these cases or the suspects involved, please call Detective Julie Goble of the Criminal Investigations Section at 703.838.4082 or email Julie.goble@alexandriava.gov, or call the Crime Solvers tip line at 703.838.4858.

Detectives would like to remind witnesses that they can remain anonymous.



(left to right) Cordell Walker, 19, Demarious White, 19, and Deshawn Strattman, 18, were arrested and charged with Burglary, Grand Larceny and Larceny with Intent to Sell. These charges stem from burglaries in the 100 block of Sanborn Place, the 100 block of E. Uhler Avenue and the 600 block of North Alfred Street.

K-9 OFFICER KIM HENDRICK RETIRES

On March 18, K-9 Officer Kim Hendrick was honored at a retirement luncheon for his 25 year career with the Alexandria Police Department.

K-9 Officer Hendrick began his career with the Alexandria Police Department on January 3, 1986. During his time in patrol, he took on the additional responsibility of being a Field Training Officer. K-9 Officer Hendrick transferred to Vice/Narcotics in August 1989.

He became a member of the Problem Response Team and joined the Special Operations Team (SOT) in May 1991. During his time in SOT, he held the position of team member, assistant team leader and team leader. He became an integral part of the team. Much of the success that SOT has had over the years has been attributed to Hendrick's leadership during training and on critical incidents.

In 1993, K-9 Officer Hendrick transferred to the K-9 Unit. Over the next 18 years he had three police canine partners, Husky, Thor and Max.

He has been a key member of the Police Union



Chief Cook thanks K-9 Officer Kim Hendrick for his many years of service during his retirement luncheon on March 18.

providing leadership and counsel to both Officers and Administrators.

The men and women of the Alexandria Police Department wish K-9 Officer Hendrick continued health and happiness as he enters a new chapter in his life.



DETECTIVE TOMMY DURKIN RETIRES

Detective Tommy Durkin began his career with the Alexandria Police Department on July 25, 1977.

Detective Durkin began his career working patrol in the Patrol Operations Bureau. He served in the Vice and Narcotics Unit before becoming a detective in the Criminal Investigations Section (CIS). Throughout his time in CIS, he successfully worked on many high profile cases. Detective Durkin also spent some of his career working as a hostage negotiator and field training officer.

The men and women of the Alexandria Police Department would like to thank Detective Durkin for his 34 years of distinguished service.



Detective Tommy Durkin accepts a letter of thanks for his 34 years of service to the Police Department from Chief Cook during his retirement luncheon on March 23.

BRUNI CONFRESI-TORO RETIRES

Bruni Confresi-Toro began her career as a police officer with the Alexandria Police Department in 1986.

Bruni started at the department working the midnight shift in the Patrol Operations Bureau. She moved to the evening shift and then day shift. During her time in patrol, she also served as a Field Training Officer. From 1993 to 1995, Bruni worked in the Parking Enforcement Unit. She then went on to work as a member of the Crime Scene Investigation Section.

Bruni took on many additional responsibilities throughout her career. She was a member of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team for 20 years. Through this assignment she helped police employees experiencing hardships. She also volunteered with Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) for 20 years. Following Hurricane Katrina, Bruni spent three weeks in New Orleans as a volunteer for Katrina relief. She is also an active member with the Special Olympics.



Charlie Bailey, Bruni Confresi-Toro and Sergeant John Gregg pose with the shadow box presented to Bruni during her retirement luncheon.

Bruni is a breast cancer survivor since 1997. She provides aid for survivors of breast cancer through various nonprofit organizations. She is an avid runner and has completed eight marathons and ten half marathons, all “after” cancer.



LIEUTENANT JESSE HARMAN RETIRES

On March 1, Lieutenant Jesse Harman retired after 28 years of service to the City.

Lieutenant Harman began his career with the Alexandria Police Department on July 6, 1983, in the Patrol Operations Bureau. He worked as an officer on the street until he was promoted to sergeant in 1991, and worked as the sergeant for the midnight shift and evening shift. He was transferred and became the sergeant for the Street Crimes Unit in 1997. He then served as the sergeant in the Vice and Narcotics Unit from 2000 to 2004. In 2006, he was promoted to lieutenant and went back to patrol. He was transferred to become the commander of the Vice and Narcotics Section in 2009, where he served until his retirement.

During his career, Lieutenant Harman took on ancillary assignments as a Hostage Negotiations Team member and a Special Operations Team member. He remained involved with these

assignments for twenty years. Throughout the years he held positions from team member to team leader to executive officer and instructor. At the time of his retirement, Lieutenant Harman was a recognized expert in the field of S.W.A.T. operations. His commitment to excellence propelled the SOT team to one of the finest, both locally and nationally.



JERRY MCHUGH RECEIVES SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD

On August 30, 2010, Supervisor Jerry McHugh was driving home from work on I-95. He was passing the Occoquan exit when he encountered a vehicle that was in an accident with a tractor-trailer. McHugh immediately pulled over and ran to assist those involved in the crash. As he approached the crash, he discovered the head of the driver of the vehicle had gone through the windshield and was covered in glass. McHugh checked the vehicle for other victims. Once he was certain there were no other victims, he removed the victim from the vehicle and held his head while an off-duty medic came to assist.

Detective Ronda Parker was also traveling home on I-95 and came across the crash scene. Despite being three months pregnant, she did not hesitate to act and immediately pulled over to assist McHugh with the injured victim. By this time, the vehicle involved had caught on fire. The flames were beginning to engulf the vehicle. McHugh told Detective Parker to make sure there was no one injured on the bus and to make sure all the passengers were off and directed to a safe location away from the burning vehicle in



(left to right) Chief Cook, Jerry McHugh, Barbara McHugh, Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes and Deputy Chief Cleveland Spruill at the award ceremony.

case it exploded or leaked fluids. She quickly started directing people and traffic away from the vehicle. As Detective Parker was returning to assist McHugh with the victim, the vehicle exploded twice within 15 minutes, sending flames and debris into the air.



PART 1 CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSE	2009	2010	% CHANGE
Homicide	0	0	0%
Rape	3	11	266.67
Robbery	32	21	-34.38
Aggravated Assault	28	26	-7.14
Burglary	56	71	26.79
Larceny	695	610	-12.23
Auto Theft	54	63	16.67
Total	868	802	-7.60%

*Crime statistics are for the period of January 1 through March 31, 2011, and are compared to the same period of the previous year. The numbers in the chart are raw and unverified. They are not the final crime statistic values for 2011 and may be changed by our review process.

POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ACTION



School Crossing Guard Charlotte Ross talks to a student from Polk Elementary School as she helps him and his mom cross the street.



K-9 Officer Carlos Rolon presents K-9 Officer Kim Hendrick with a shadow box from the K-9 Unit during K-9 Officer Hendrick's retirement luncheon on March 18.



The Honor Guard marched in the George Washington Parade on February 21



Fire Chief Adam Theil, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne and Chief Earl Cook prepare to march in the George Washington Parade on February 21.



Crime Analyst Carloyn Cassidy, PIO Jody Donaldson, Social Worker Susan Clay and Supervisory Crime Analyst Matt Smith attend Detective Durkin's retirement luncheon on March 23.

**Alexandria Police
Department
2003 Mill Road
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.838.4444**

**Writer/Editor:
Ashley Hildebrandt**

**Contributors:
Jody Donaldson
Kathleen Leonard**

**Photography:
Ashley Hildebrandt
Garry Ground**

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ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION AND VALUES

The mission of the Alexandria Police Department is to provide competent, courteous, professional and community-oriented police services. We are committed to maintaining and enhancing a strong and productive partnership with the community to continue to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in all of Alexandria's neighborhoods. We are dedicated to protecting life and property while assuring fair and equal treatment to everyone.

Central to the Department's mission are the values that guide its work and decisions.

We, the men and women of the Alexandria Police Department, value:

- Human Life
- Dignity
- Integrity
- Laws and Constitution
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Cooperation
- Problem-solving
- Ourselves

The Alexandria Police Department honors its family fighting for our country overseas: Ji Tam

2011 RETIREMENTS

Bruni Confesi-Toro
Thomas Durkin
Jesse Harman
Kim Hendrick
Peyton Jones